AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10. (Canceled)

11. **(New)** A commutator for an electrical machine, the commutator comprising a plurality of laminations each having contact faces and being separated from one another by slots, and

at least one groove formed in at least some of the laminations in the contact face, which at least one groove extends essentially in the longitudinal direction of the respective lamination.

12. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 11, wherein the spacing of the slots and grooves is uniform.

13. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 11, wherein the depth of the grooves amounts to only a portion of the thickness of the laminations, preferably about 0.5 mm.

14. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 12, wherein the depth of the grooves amounts to only a portion of the thickness of the laminations, preferably about 0.5 mm.

15. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 11, comprising two grooves on each lamination.

16. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 12, comprising two grooves on each lamination.

17. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 13, comprising two grooves on each lamination.

18. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 11, further comprising a chamfer formed an opposed edges of adjacent laminations and the edges of the grooves.

19. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 12, further comprising a chamfer formed an opposed edges of adjacent laminations and the edges of the grooves.

20. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 13, further comprising a chamfer formed an opposed edges of adjacent laminations and the edges of the grooves.

21. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 15, further comprising a chamfer formed an opposed edges of adjacent laminations and the edges of the grooves.

22. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 18, wherein the chamfers form an acute angle, preferably of about 15° to 20°, with the contact face of the respective lamination.

23. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 19, wherein the chamfers form an acute angle, preferably of about 15° to 20°, with the contact face of the respective lamination.

24. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 20, wherein the chamfers form an acute angle, preferably of about 15° to 20°, with the contact face of the respective lamination.

25. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 21, wherein the chamfers form an acute angle, preferably of about 15° to 20°, with the contact face of the respective lamination.

26. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 11, wherein the laminations are disposed on the circumference of the commutator, embodied as a drum commutator.

27. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 12, wherein the laminations are disposed on the circumference of the commutator, embodied as a drum commutator.

28. **(New)** The commutator as defined by claim 11, wherein the grooves are shorter than the slots.

29. **(New)** An electrical machine having a commutator as defined by claim 11.

30. **(New)** A drive unit for a motor vehicle, such as a power window system, sliding groove drive, drive train actuator, and in particular clutch actuator or the like, having an electrical machine as defined by claim 29.